



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

MEDME Services Corporation

Respondent Name

New Hampshire Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-16-1944-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received

March 8, 2016

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "The disputed fees should be paid because: the rental and the purchase of the TENS have been billed accordingly and verbal authorization was received prior to billing each."

Amount in Dispute: \$620.56

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "Our initial response to the above referenced medical fee dispute resolution is as follows: we have escalated the bill in question for manual review to determine if additional monies are owed."

Response Submitted by: Gallagher Bassett

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
July 31, 2015 September 1, 2015	E0730 RR E0730 NU	\$620.56	\$545.99

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and applicable rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203 sets out the reimbursement guidelines for professional medical services.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.308 details requirements of medical necessity disputes.
4. The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
 - August 25, 2015/19 – Precertification/authorization/notification absent

- September 29, 2015/10 – (109) Claim not covered by this payer/contractor. You must send the claim to the correct payer/contractor
- October 2, 2015/1 – Rental reimbursements have not reached the threshold value or the rental payments have been reimbursed less than maximum number of occurrences
- October 2, 2015/3 – Original payment decision is being maintained. Upon review, it was determined that the claim was processed properly
- October 5, 2015/W3 – Request for reconsideration
- October 5, 2015/21 - Based on the findings of a review organization
- October 30, 2015/1 – The recommended reimbursement amount is the difference between the Fee schedule amounts and any accumulated payments from previously paid rentals
- October 30, 2015/3 – The charge for this procedure exceeds the fee schedule allowance

Issues

1. Are the insurance carrier's reasons for denial or reduction of payment supported?
2. What is the rule applicable to reimbursement?
3. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. The insurance carrier denied disputed services with claim adjustment reason code 10 – “Claim not covered by this payer/contractor. You must send the claim to the correct payer/contractor” and 21 – “Based on the findings of a review organization.” 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.308(o) states in pertinent part, “The decision shall be mailed or otherwise transmitted to the parties and to representatives of record for the parties and transmitted in the form and manner prescribed by the department within the time frames specified in this section.” Review of the submitted documentation found insufficient documentation to support the service in dispute had been reviewed and/or denied by a review organization and no indication that the wrong carrier had been billed. The Division finds the carrier's denial is not supported. The service in dispute will be reviewed per applicable rules and fee guidelines.

2. 28 Texas Administrative Code 134.203 (b) states,

For coding, billing, reporting, and reimbursement of professional medical services, Texas workers' compensation system participants shall apply the following:

- (1) Medicare payment policies, including its coding; billing; correct coding initiatives (CCI) edits; modifiers;

Review of the applicable Medicare policy found at, <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c20.pdf> Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20 - Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS), Section 30.1.2 - Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator (TENS) (Rev. 2605, Issued: 11-30-12, Effective: 06-08-12, Implementation: 01-07-13), which states;

In order to permit an attending physician time to determine whether the purchase of a TENS is medically appropriate for a particular patient, contractors pay 10 percent of the purchase price of the item for each of 2 months. The purchase price and payment for maintenance and servicing are determined under the same rules as any other frequently purchased item, except that there is no reduction in the allowed amount for purchase due to the two months rental.

28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203 (d) states in pertinent part,

The MAR for Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Level II codes A, E, J, K, and L shall be determined as follows:

- (1) 125 percent of the fee listed for the code in the Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) fee schedule;

Review of the 2015 – 3rd Quarter Texas DMEPOS Fee Schedule finds E0730 RR is $397.07 \div 10 = \$39.71$. The maximum allowable reimbursement is calculated to be $(\$39.70 \times 125\% = \$49.63)$. The amount is recommended.

Review of the 2015 – 3rd Quarter Texas DMEPOS Fee Schedule finds E0730 NU is $\$397.09 \times 125\% = \496.36 . This amount is recommended.

3. The total allowable reimbursement is \$545.99. The carrier previously paid \$0.00. The remaining balance of \$545.99 is due to the requestor.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$545.99.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code Sections 413.031 and 413.019 (if applicable), the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to additional reimbursement for the services involved in this dispute. The Division hereby ORDERS the respondent to remit to the requestor the amount of \$545.99 plus applicable accrued interest per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.130 due within 30 days of receipt of this Order.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	March 23, 2016
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.